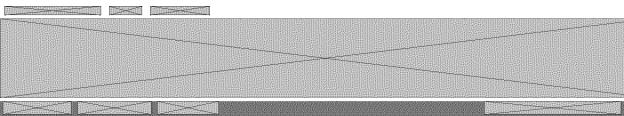
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From: **BNA Highlights**

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Agriculture

Environmental Rules Burdening Farmers, House Panel Told

Complicated environmental regulations are forcing farmers and ranchers to spend more time filling out paperwork rather than tending to their fields and livestock, farmers from Florida, Pennsylvania and Wyoming told a House Agriculture...

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Air Pollution

EPA: Bar Holmstead Testimony in Jobs Lawsuit

The Environmental Protection Agency wants a former Bush administration air pollution official barred from testifying in a lawsuit over Clean Air Act regulations' impact on jobs, citing "significant" conflicts of interest...

Air Pollution

EPA Denies Reconsideration of Brick Industry Air Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency has rejected industry requests to reconsider hazardous air pollutant standards covering the brick manufacturing industry....

Air Pollution

Regional Haze Lawsuit Briefing to Stretch Into 2017

The Utility Air Regulatory Group, the Sierra Club and other organizations soon will brief a federal appeals court on challenges to a regulation that allowed states to use emissions trading programs to fulfill their obligations to improve...

Air Pollution

South Korea Claims Nissan Manipulated Emissions Tests

In a widening clampdown on diesel emissions pollution, South Korea's Ministry of Environment will order Japan's Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. to recall a sport utility vehicle model and also pursue criminal

prosecution against the ...

Air Pollution

Volkswagen Disputes Some Justice Department Diesel Claims

Volkswagen Group of America asked a federal district judge to dismiss some of the government's claims over the company's use of allegedly illegal engine technology in its diesel fleet, though the automaker said it remains committed...

Biotechnology

Academies Panel Finds Few Risks From GMOs

Genetically modified crops pose no greater health or environmental risks than their conventionally grown counterparts, according to a panel assembled by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine....

Chemicals

Canada Proposes Restrictions on Mercury Exports

Canada is proposing changes to environmental laws and regulations to let it restrict exports of elemental mercury, which could allow the country to ratify the international Minamata Convention on Mercury....

Chemicals

House to Move TSCA Bill Minus Key Democrats: Shimkus

Lawmakers expect to release compromise language "in the next day or two" overhauling the Toxic Substances Control Act and plan to vote on the legislation the week of May 23 without the support of top House Democratic negotiators, who...

Climate Change

Environmentalists to Sue Exxon Mobil Over Climate Change

An environmental group in Massachusetts served notice to Exxon Mobil that it plans to sue the company for allegedly engaging in a deliberate, decades-long, cover-up of climate change....

Climate Policy

Massachusetts Must Issue Climate Rules: State Court

Massachusetts did not create regulations to curb greenhouse gas emissions as a 2008 global warming law intended, the Massachusetts high court found May 17 (Isabel Kain & Others vs. Department of Environmental Protection, Mass., No....

Coal Mining

Enzi, Mead Ask BLM to Leave Coal Leasing Alone

Citing economic concerns, Sen. Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.) and Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead (R) urged the Bureau of Land Management May 17 not to revamp its federal coal leasing program....

Emissions Trading

EU Said to Need More Time to Evaluate French Carbon Plan

European Union governments need more time to evaluate a French idea to introduce a price floor in the bloc's carbon market and define their stances on the issue after initial talks, according to an EU official with knowledge of the matter....

Endangered Species

Canada Could Designated Whale-Protected Waters

Canada wants to designate a section of the North Atlantic and part of the St. Lawrence River as protected habitat critical to the survival of two species of endangered whales. If successful, the designation potentially could limit oil and gas...

Endangered Species

Canada Could Designate Whale-Protected Waters

Canada wants to designate a section of the North Atlantic and part of the St. Lawrence River as protected habitat critical to the survival of two species of endangered whales. If successful, the designation potentially could limit oil and gas...

Energy

Clean Power Plan Halves Coal Use by 2040: EIA

The Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan would boost the use of natural gas to generate electricity by 67 percent from 2021 through 2040, the Energy Information Administration said May 17 in an annual outlook report. ...

Energy

Frank Maisano: Energy PR Guru With a Rockin' Side

Frank Maisano is the public face of Bracewell LLP's Policy Resolution Group, where he represents clients as diverse as rural electric co-ops and Southern Co., refiner Valero and the Council of Industrial Boiler Owners....

Energy

Nuclear Firms: More Federal Money for Advanced Reactors

Nuclear companies said in a Senate hearing that continued support from Congress is needed to further develop and commercialize advanced nuclear reactors, several of which are getting some Department of Energy funding. ...

Enforcement

Plains All American Indicted for California Oil Spill

A California grand jury indicted Plains All American Pipeline LP on criminal charges involving failure of a pipeline that spilled 140,000 gallons of crude oil along California's coast, state and local prosecutors said May 17 (People...

EPA

Bill Renaming Building for Ariel Rios Heads to Obama

Legislation (H.R. 4957) that would return the name of Ariel Rios to a federal building in Washington is headed to the desk of President Barack Obama after the Senate passed it May 16 by unanimous consent. The name of Rios, an undercover special...

Mining

Peabody Judge to Approve \$800M Loan With Some Changes

Peabody Energy Corp. is close to getting approval for an \$800 million loan package to help it through bankruptcy after resolving complaints by a creditors' committee and successfully fending off objections raised by hedge funds...

Mitigation

Comment Extended on HFC Proposed Rule

The Environmental Protection Agency will extend the public comment period to June 16 on a proposed rule that would place certain limits on the use of certain replacements for ozone-depleting substances because of their significant climate...

Natural Resources

Natural Areas Disappearing in the West, Report Says

Natural areas in the American West were lost to development at the rate of one football field of open space every 2.5 minutes between 2001 and 2011, the Center for American Progress said in a new interactive analysis....

Oceans

Marine Debris in Oceans Difficult Problem, Senate Panel Told

Public education, continued collaboration among relevant state and federal agencies, and stronger enforcement of a treaty banning ocean dumping are ways to address the growing problem of marine debris littering the oceans and coastlines,...

Renewable Energy

DOE Grows Solar Vets Program; \$10M for New Projects

The Energy Department said it has added five new military bases to its Solar Ready Vets jobs training program, and is allocating more than \$10 million to fund 10 new projects in its Solar Training and Education for Professionals (STEP) program....

Renewable Energy

New California Gold Rush Beckons Wind Developers Off Coast

When turbines start spinning at the first U.S. offshore wind farm near Rhode Island later this year, some energy developers will already be eyeing a bigger prize....

Right to Know

California Revises Proposal to Update Prop. 65 Warnings

California revised its proposal to update the public warning requirements for the state's landmark right-to-know law, Proposition 65....

Sustainability

Sharing Economy, Meet Circular Economy

The circular economy could learn a lesson or two from the sharing economy when it comes to finding finance, according to the head of a network helping businesses, governments and other institutions cut back on waste and recycle more....

Trade

Energy Suppliers Urge Senate to Approve Ex-Im Bank Nominee

General Electric Co., Westinghouse Electric Co. and other energy suppliers are lobbying senators to confirm President Barack Obama's nominee for the U.S. Export-Import Bank, arguing that they need the lender's help to boost...

Water Pollution

11th Circuit Should Hold Water Rule Arguments: States

A coalition of states led by Georgia is urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit to proceed with holding its own oral arguments on whether an appeals court or a district court should hear challenges to the Clean Water Rule (Georgia...

Water Pollution

Bill Banning Water Act Pesticide Permit Fails in House

The House effectively ended an attempt to pass legislation May 17 that would have eliminated Clean Water Act permit requirements for pesticide applications on or near waters....

Water Pollution

Lawsuit in Kentucky Selenium Water Case Dismissed

A citizens' lawsuit alleging the Environmental Protection Agency inappropriately approved revisions to Kentucky's selenium water quality standards under the Clean Water Act was dismissed with prejudice after the parties...

Water Resources

House Panel Advances Prospects for Water Projects

A House subcommittee moved a step closer May 17 to introducing legislation that is likely to

authorize 28 new water infrastructure projects to support commerce, flood control and environmental restoration....

Water Resources

Senate to Craft Broad Drought Package: Subcommittee Chair

A drought bill by Sen. Diane Feinstein (D-Calif.) will likely be incorporated into a broader legislative package meant to address unprecedented water shortages in California and other western states, Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah), the chairman...

BNA INSIGHTS

BNA Insights: Human Health Criteria, Fish Consumption Rates—More Important Policy Implications Than Clean Water Rule?

During the past several years, the Obama administration's Clean Water Rule, also known as the waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule, has been the primary focus of water policy development. But while that saga has unfolded, another equally, if...

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